

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : Natsuko NOBUKUNI et al.
Filed: : Concurrently herewith
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 13, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary regulations 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449. Copies of such documents were made of record in the parent case, U.S. Patent Application No.: 09/573,319 filed May 18, 2000. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this Statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

The present Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will

determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brian S. Myers", is written over a horizontal line.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE**STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 1

Application No. :

Filing Date :

First Named Inventor: N. NOBUKUNI

Group Art Unit :

Examiner Name :

Attorney Docket No. : SAN 17.343A

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		6,280,810		NAKAMURA et al.	08-28-2001	
		5,709,978		HIROTSUNE et al.	01-20-1998	
		5,221,588		MORIMOTO et al.	06-22-1993	
		5,848,043		TAKADA et al.	12-08-1998	
		5,818,808		TAKADA et al.	10-06-1998	

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		11-115313	JP	Ricoh Co Ltd.	04-27-1999	
		9-282661	JP	Mitsubishi Chem Corp.	10-31-1997	
		10-172179	JP	Mitsubishi Chem Corp.	06-26-1998	
		11-144310	JP	Ricoh Co Ltd.	05-28-1999	
		2000-137928	JP		05-16-2000	
		5-229259	JP	Hisankabutsu et al.	09-07-1993	
		0 834 874 A2	EP	Mitsubishi Chem Corp.	04-08-1998	

Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check her if English language translation attached
		"CD-Rom Professional " published in the United States, September 19996, Hugh Bennett, pages 29-44	
		"CD-erasable (CD-E) with Ag-In-Sb-Te Phase Change Recording Material" by Y. Kageyama, et al of R&D Center, R&D Group, Ricoh Co., Ltd. (Assembly of Manuscripts for Phase-Change Optical Recording Symposium, November 30-December 1, 1995, pages 41-45)	
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1" if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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